

calls others to his aid. All great generals have their aids, and much work is done thru them. But the responsibility rests, nevertheless, upon the leader.

In this letter I want to address myself principally to the members of the Prayer-meeting Committee. Very probably you have gotten your office at the hand of the President. We give him power to select his aids. He is supposed to know each member of the society and his fitness for service. You have helped to place him in his present office, because you thought him to possess special fitness for the work. Now he in turn has made you a committee to aid him in his work. Perhaps your thought of him is his thought of you. He has placed confidence in you as you have in him. Therefore your attitude toward him should be what you expect his to be toward you. You would not have him do or say anything that shall lessen your confidence in him. You should therefore, by the Golden Rule, so do and act toward him.

If the President holds an indispensable and therefore a responsible position, it is equally true that the Prayer-meeting Committee is one of the most important committees in the society. Your President appreciated this and was careful, in consequence to select the best committee, selected because of special fitness. You need first of all to know what your work is and then the best method to accomplish it.

One of the distinguishing features of the Young People's Society is the *Sunday evening Prayer Meeting*. You will observe that I write *Prayer Meeting* not a club meeting nor a Literary Society nor a mutual admiration society, but a *Prayer Meeting*. To be sure every society calls its Sunday evening service a prayer meeting, but oft times they are not. *What is a Prayer Meeting?* A prayer meeting ought to be to the society what the Mountain of Transfiguration was to the Disciples, a place of vision seeing in order that greater work may be done. It ought to be a place where we get the blessing of God. It should not be looked upon as the battleground, but as another has said, "the place where the canteens are filled." Another has said that it is a meeting led by anybody, taken part in by everybody, monopolized by no body and in which everybody is somebody.

This definition will suffice to show what is both the importance and the purpose of the Prayer meeting. Not to attain this is to allow the service to fall short of its real worth. In fact we can go so far as to say that no society can exist or do its work without this meeting.

The question now comes, how can we make this meeting to be such? How can we make it most helpful spiritually to all the members of the society? Let me try to suggest to you *how* in this quiet way.

I wish, first of all, that you would buy a copy of *Prayer-meeting methods* by Amos R. Wells. I have received much valuable help from it and know of nothing else so

good. Each society should have a copy for the use of the prayer meeting committee.

In the second place supply much good gospel singing. If possible have some member lead the singing. As much as possible select songs that have some bearing upon the topic. *Put much life into the music.* Sing as tho you were really in earnest. Sing as you would pray, for after all is not church music but our prayers reduced to rhyme and rhythm? Many a soul has been born into the kingdom thru the influence of a song. Make much, therefore, of song.

Again experience teaches that the better plan is to appoint the leaders in advance, at least three months if possible. The list should be made and posted in a conspicuous place in the church. As to the programme for each evening it is generally best to allow the appointed leader to arrange it and conduct it largely after his own plan. You can of course help him to assign the work, distribute references, subjects for discussion, etc., and especially take charge of the music, unless you have a music committee. Have each member of the society lead the meeting in turn. If you have timid ones, encourage them to lead and share the burden at first with them.

Be present if at all possible at every service. If the leader can not be present be sure that one is appointed in ample time so as to prevent any embarrassment whatever, either to the leader or the society.

Take part in the service yourself. How can you induce others to do so if you are indifferent yourself?

Other methods may suggest themselves to you. Much depends upon the society. I can only suggest, but I hope that you as a committee will be aroused to a greater activity by this quiet talk. Let us make this a mighty year for Christ and the church in our Society work. We can do so if we work together. *Will you do so with me.*

#### THE FIRST OFFERING

Last Sunday evening (Sept. 30) was the regular consecration meeting and also the time to make the regular monthly offering. This service ought to be made the very best. Many societies do not make the regular monthly offering, but I hope that all will soon fall into line. The Ashland Society, made up largely of students and they not rich, gave \$3 75. What we did others can do. I wish I might induce every society in the church to adopt this plan. It is certainly scriptural and experience proves its worth. It furnishes an opportunity for free-will offerings which after all is gift that meets Divine approval. *Will you try it once?*

#### PAINTING FUND

This fund is not growing as rapidly as it ought. Have you laid the matter before your society? If so, what disposition did you make of it? May I not hear from each society this week. WM. D. FURRY.

A person who tells you the faults of others will tell others of your faults. Have a care how you listen.

## The Christian Life

### Wait Thou on God

MRS. W. S. MACTAVISH

Wait thou on God, my soul!  
Wait not the turn of fortune's wheel,  
Nor trust thine own unaided zeal,  
To gain thy wished-for goal.  
Jehovah can supply thy needs,  
Direct thy thoughts, control thy deeds,  
Wait thou on God.

Wait thou on God, my soul!  
When sorrows threaten to o'erwhelm,  
Then know His hand is on his helm.  
He'll comfort and console.  
His hand will wipe away each tear.  
His words will strengthen bless and cheer,  
Wait thou on God.

Wait thou on God, my soul!  
When passing thru temptation's fire,  
He will not let thy spirit tire,  
He'll keep thee pure and whole.  
His strength will bear the safely thru,  
His grace will keep thee faithful, true,  
Wait thou on God.

Wait thou on God, my soul!  
Then shalt thou daily upward rise,  
Like eagle wings thru azure skies,  
Naught earthly shall control.  
Thy race unwearied thou shalt run,  
Nor faint until thy work be done,  
Wait thou on God.

—Presbyterian.

### Ways of Pleasantness

Christian Advocate.

All are seeking ways of pleasantness. When young men and maidens turn away from prayer and the Bible to a life of indulgence in evil things they are seeking ways of pleasantness. When men turn away from religion to the way which they hope will lead to wealth or power or social elevation they are seeking ways of pleasantness. But they are deceived, and shall be disappointed. Real ways of pleasantness are found only in the service of the Lord. The way of righteousness, the way of holiness, the way of prayer, the way of obedience to God—these are ways of pleasantness. All others lead to misery. They may appear to be easy and inviting, but the way of the transgressor is hard, however it may seem.

The ways of the Lord are ways of pleasantness because they are flooded with light. Traveling by night is never a pleasant task. To travel in darkness thru a region infested with peril fills the mind with horror. When the day dawns and the sun rises the traveler breathes easier and feels more comfortable. All the ways of the Lord are in the light of day. "The path of the just is as shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day."

They are pleasant ways, the company is good. Setting out upon a long journey, one is always glad to know that his traveling companions are to be intelligent and agreeable. It relieves the weariness of the journey to be associated with choice spirits on the way. The road may be rough and long, but it seems smooth and short when cheered by genial companions and happy conversation. Who are the Christian's traveling companion?